



Rockville Reports

FEBRUARY 2015 • VOL. 61 #2



• A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE •

Mayor Highlights City's Successes in State of the City Address

Speech to Be Broadcast on Rockville 11 and Available on YouTube

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton planned to deliver Rockville's 2015 State of the City address on Thursday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park.

Newton, elected mayor in November 2013, has titled her remarks "Rockville: The City That Energizes."

"Rockville has been, is, and will continue to be, the city that energizes Montgomery County and the State of Maryland," said Newton. "With all sectors working together, Rockville's

potential is boundless."

The speech will be available for viewing throughout February on the City's YouTube channel at

www.youtube.com/cityofrockville and

at the following times on Channel 11 on county cable systems:

- **Sundays:** 5 p.m.
- **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays:** 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays:** 3 and 7 p.m.

En Español pagina 7.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE 11
Watch www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

SAVE THE DATE: Lunar New Year Celebration is Feb. 28

A special Lunar New Year celebration will honor Rockville's Asian cultures on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

The event will feature samples of Asian cuisine and a variety of multigenerational performances and exhibitors, including several dance groups. Also performing will be Flowers of Beijing Opera, the boys Korean drum group from Spark M. Matsunaga Elementary School in Germantown and the Filipino-American Community of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Gaithersburg. A full list of performers is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/lunarnewyear.

[rockvillemd.gov/lunarnewyear](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/lunarnewyear).

The celebration is organized by Rockville's Asian Pacific American Task Force to commemorate the beginning of the year 4713 on the Chinese calendar. One in three Rockville residents was born outside the United States and 54 percent of the City's foreign-born population was born in Asia, according to Rockville's planning department.

For more information, contact Janet Kelly, task force liaison, at 240-314-8316 or jkelly@rockvillemd.gov or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/apataaskforce. For information about access, call the City's ADA coordinator at 240-314-8108. ✦

City Hall and Some City Facilities to Close for Presidents Day

Recycling and Refuse on Regular Schedule

Rockville City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents Day on Monday, Feb. 16, and several Rockville facilities will operate on a limited schedule.

Parking fees at City-owned meters will be suspended on Presidents Day.

The recycling and refuse schedule will not change for Presidents Day.

On Monday, Feb. 16:

- The Rockville Senior Center will be closed.
- The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and its box office will be closed.
- Croydon Creek Nature Center will be closed.
- Glenview Mansion and Glenview Mansion Art Gallery will be closed.
- The Twinbrook and Thomas Farm Community Centers will be open from 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
- The Lincoln Park Community Center will be open from 9 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Thomas Farm Community Center will be open from 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
- The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open regular hours.

For more information about schedules for specific facilities or programs, call 240-314-5000 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov. ✦

Final Budget Preview to Examine Tax Revenue, City Manager's Proposals

Mayor and Council Signal Support for Flat Tax Rates

Property tax revenue and a detailed look at the city manager's proposed additions to the fiscal year 2016 budget will be the focus of the Mayor and Council's third and final budget preview on Monday, Feb. 9.

At the second FY16 budget preview, on Jan. 5, the Mayor and Council gave preliminary direction to the city manager to keep property tax rates flat, to maintain or increase funding for current programs or services, and to address serious infrastructure needs at the Swim and Fitness Center and the King Farm Farmstead.

Also on Jan. 5, the Mayor and Council voted for moderate increases to water and sewer rates over the next three fiscal years. Rockville water and sewer cus-

tomers will see the new rates reflected on bills issued on July 15, during the first billing cycle of FY16. The Mayor and Council's action addresses deficits in the City's water and sewer funds—one of the most significant financial issues facing the City. For details on the new rates, including charges by meter size, see the agenda for the Jan. 5 Mayor and Council meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter.

The remaining budget schedule is as follows:

- **March 23:** Formal introduction of the City Manager's proposed budget, and the Mayor and Council's first worksession.
- **March 30 and April 13:** Public hearings and worksessions.
- **April 20:** Final public hearing.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE BUDGET

Residents can speak at scheduled public hearings, at any Community Forum during regularly scheduled Mayor and Council meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m., send an email to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov, and talk with the mayor and one councilmember during drop-in sessions held monthly before the start of a Mayor and Council meeting.

TO LEARN MORE

www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

- **April 21:** The public record closes.
 - **May 4:** A final worksession.
 - **May 18:** Final adoption.
- For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. To view the budget previews, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter and select the television icon next to the Nov. 26

and Jan. 5 meeting dates.

The third preview will be televised as part of the regular Mayor and Council meeting on Feb. 9, beginning at 7 p.m. It will be broadcast live on Rockville 11, available via live streaming at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 and available on demand at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter beginning Feb. 11. ✦

Connect with us on Social Media.



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Hear from neighbors on what's great about the city.

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Check out a video camera and record day to day life in Rockville for a special documentary.

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Special events in 2015 aren't to be missed.

MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Valentine Activities at Rockville Recreation Centers

Love is in the air this February and the City of Rockville has events for everyone to enjoy with their special Valentine. Grab a date or enjoy the company of friends and family at one of these events:

TINY TOTS VALENTINE'S CELEBRATION

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-noon

Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive

Come in your cutest red to play, make crafts and sample light refreshments. Ages 5 and under, \$2 per child; current membership or day passes required for adults. Preregister using course #49103.

XOXO AFTERSCHOOL VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

Friday, Feb. 13; 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

Celebrate Valentine's Day with your friends and family. Our DJ will spin all the latest tunes. Dress in your favorite Valentine outfit. Refreshments will be sold. Cost: \$5 per person at the door. No registration necessary.

ANNUAL HEART TO HEART FAMILY VALENTINE'S DANCE

Friday, Feb. 13, 7-9 p.m.

Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy.

Families and friends can spend time together making Valentine crafts, playing carnival games and dancing as a DJ spins favorite tunes. Refreshments will be sold by Twinbrook Elementary School. Cost: \$3 per person at the door. No registration necessary.

LATE NIGHT TEEN VALENTINE'S PARTY

Friday, Feb. 13, 7-10 p.m.

Thomas Farm Community Center

Teens in grades 6-9 have the community center all to themselves to hang out with friends, enjoy basketball, dancing, video games and more. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Preregistration fee is \$7 for Rockville residents and \$10 for non-residents, and the fee at the door is \$10R/\$15NR. Preregister using course #49092.

OWL-N-TINE'S DAY

Saturday, Feb. 14; 10-10:45 a.m.

Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road (off Baltimore Road)

Love is in the air – for owls! While other birds are away on migration, owls stay near home for their winter mating season. Learn about these wonderful birds, hear a story, dissect an owl pellet and take a peek at our resident owl. Open to ages 6 and up. Cost: \$7 for residents and \$9 for non-residents. Preregister using course #49987.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide. Register online via RockEnroll or in person at City Hall or Rockville recreation facilities, or call 240-314-8620 for more information.

What's Happening in Rockville?

Receive a list of Rockville's weekly events delivered to your email every Thursday.

- Recreation and Parks programs
- Special events
- Important meetings and more...

Sign up today and look to the week ahead.

www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek

Why I Rockville...

I love Rockville for the incredible diversity that I got to experience growing up. I was given a much broader perspective on life in multi-cultural communities than I think I would get in any other place. The incredible school systems have really also prepared me for everything beyond here and the great situations like this, you have ice skating seasonally, and the opportunities for entertainment.

– MORGAN BAUER



I love Rockville because it is a small piece of the real world. It's very diverse, you have a lot of different kinds of people a lot of different economic groups here but everybody blends together well. I was fortunate enough for my son to go to school here, Twinbrook, that's how I ended up as I volunteered so much but he loved this school and he'll tell anybody that he considers himself very lucky to be in Rockville too. We have great libraries, we have great people, great community, the rec centers, I don't know where to stop because they are so many good things about Rockville.

– ELLEN MILLER

I love Rockville because I love the schools in Rockville, the recreation department, the parks, and all of the wonderful activities that we can do in Rockville, that's like no other place I have ever been.

– CATHERINE KAPP

I love Rockville because I'm originally from Bethesda, I moved to Rockville when I was 10 or 11 and one thing I like about it is just the diversity of the community. I feel like I have friends from different cultures, from all over the world, and it's a big melting pot, kind of representative for the DC area and it really sets you up for the real world,



We're marking the month of Valentine's Day by celebrating the many reasons to love Rockville. Rockville Reports hit the streets to hear what you love about living in our city. From historic neighborhoods to a thriving retail and business community and diversity felt throughout the City, there's a lot to love about Rockville.



when you get older. There are so many people from different backgrounds, different experiences in Rockville so you're prepared for that.

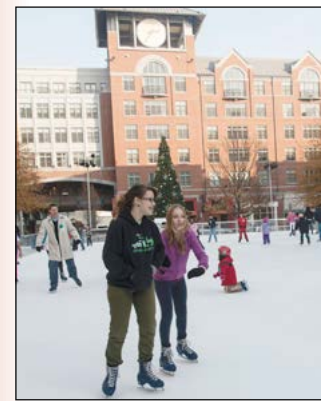
– EVAN CURLAND

I love Rockville because I think Rockville offers great variety amongst different communities. The three local community centers and the Nature Center offer great services to anywhere from toddlers to adults. We offer different kinds of programs exercise classes, a wonderful toddler program, and I think it's a great place to live, learn and play.

– KEGAN LOURYK

I love Rockville because I've lived here a majority of my life and we got RTC, we got the Thomas Farm Community Center great schools like Wootton High School and there are a lot of things to love about Rockville, but those are probably the main things. The Center is great, it gives me a chance to stay active even though I usually am not. Over the summer I work at the Falls Grove camps, and seeing the same kids from the center is also fun.

– MR. SOO



I love Rockville because it's a very well developed City, it has really good city services and it's a clean low crime City. I love the fact that the shopping and all of those types of things are available. The school system is

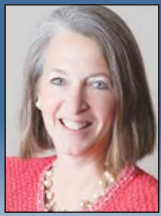


really, really excellent. I was born in Washington DC, and I appreciate it

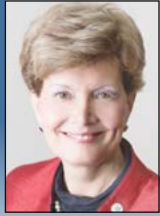
that there are enough things to do out here. But you can see a lot of different things coming along, like entertainment and that type of thing.

– TERRY MARSHALL

Mayor & Council



Mayor
Bridget Donnell Newton



Councilmember
Beryl L. Feinberg



Councilmember
Tom Moore



Councilmember
Virginia D. Onley



Councilmember
Julie Palakovich Carr

APFS, Budget and More on the Mayor and Council's Agendas

A vote on proposed changes to the City's Adequate Public Facilities Standards (APFS), a hearing on proposed changes to the animal control ordinance, worksessions on the draft "Rockville's Pike Plan," and discussions and hearings on the Fiscal Year 2016 budget are on upcoming agendas for Rockville's Mayor and Council.

The APFS are designed to ensure adequate public facilities will be in place to serve new development. The Mayor and Council are tentatively scheduled to vote Feb. 9 on whether to adopt any proposed changes to the APFS, in order to match Montgomery County's schools test. An initial public hearing on the proposal was held Jan. 5, with a second public hearing on Jan. 26.

Other highlights in the coming weeks are:

On Feb. 2:

- A discussion concerning the draft scope of work for an external consultant review of the City's procurement function.
- A discussion concerning the draft scope of work for the Southlawn Industrial Area Feasibility Study.
- A presentation on recommendations to improve the City's site plan review process.

On Feb. 9:

- A presentation of a report by the City Clerk Work Group, an 11-member body comprising former elected officials, city clerks and the chair of the Board of Supervisors of Elections, tasked with examining the responsibilities and reporting function of the city clerk. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/clerkworkgroup.
- A final FY16 budget preview, followed by worksessions and public hearings in March and April. For more information, see the article on page 1 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget.
- A public hearing and discussion on proposed amendments to the City's animal

control ordinance to require the licensing of cats and ferrets, create new requirements for tethering and sheltering animals, establish a trap-neuter-return program for feral cats, allow chickens and goats under certain conditions, and update fees and fines related to the ordinance.

On Feb. 12:

- A worksession on the draft "Rockville's Pike Plan." For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike. Note: This worksession will be held on a Thursday and is in addition to the Mayor and Council's usual Monday meeting that week.

On Feb. 23:

- The second quarter Fiscal Year 2015 financial report.
- A worksession on the draft "Rockville's Pike Plan."

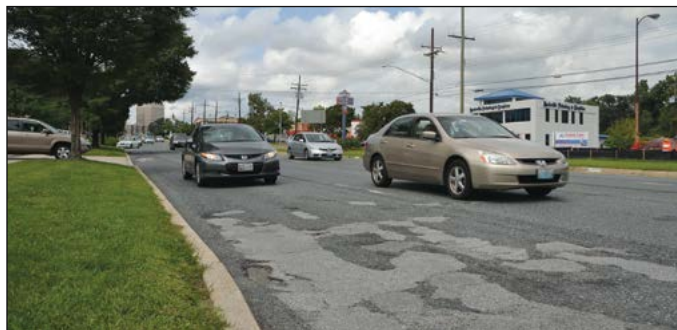
Rockville's Mayor and Council meet at 7 p.m. Mondays in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. For a schedule of upcoming meetings, please refer to the calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov.

Find Mayor and Council agendas, minutes and video on demand at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter.

Meetings are broadcast live on Rockville 11 and are available via live streaming and on demand at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.

Meetings are open to the public and include a community forum during which community members may address the Mayor and Council.

"Drop-in" sessions, during which the mayor and one councilmember take appointments with community members, are held once a month before a Mayor and Council meeting, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton will be joined by Councilmember Virginia D. Onley on Feb. 9. To make an appointment, call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280. Find future drop-in dates at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayor-council.



City Leaders Set Dates for Final Pike Plan Hearing, Worksessions

The Mayor and Council continue to gather feedback from community members on the Planning Commission's draft "Rockville's Pike Plan," which establishes policies for land use, transportation, parks and other topics along a key 2-mile stretch of the Pike corridor.

A series of public hearings and worksessions began last September. The last public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in City Hall.

Worksessions are scheduled at 7 p.m. at City Hall on the following dates:

- Thursday, Feb. 12 (on Pike roadway design and building heights)
- Monday, Feb. 23 (on additional topics raised by the Mayor and Council and/or the public)
- Wednesday, Feb. 25 (a joint worksession with the Planning Commission)
- Monday, March 2 (on any remaining topics to be discussed).

Mayor and Council worksessions will be held in March to prepare comments on the draft plan to send to the Planning Commission.

Detailed materials will be included in the agendas ahead of these meetings, which will be available at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter a few days before each meeting.

The draft "Rockville's Pike Plan" is the first update of a plan for this area since 1989. The draft plan seeks to ensure that there is a mix of residential and non-residential uses along the corridor, that existing residential neighborhoods are protected and that the Pike retains and attracts local and national retail to enhance the corridor's economic viability.

To read the plan or its 9-page executive summary, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike. Hard copies are available to review at City Hall, the Rockville and Twinbrook libraries, and at Rockville community centers.

Testimony for the public record may be sent to the Mayor and Council at city clerk@rockvillemd.gov, or by mail to the City Clerk's Office, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. ✚



Our Town - Rockville
A Maryland Public Television Documentary

Be Part of Rockville's Story

Sign out a camera to record video of Rockville's everyday events, people and places. Complete the participation form at www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown.

For more information, email ourtown@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620.

MEETINGS & DROP IN SCHEDULE

All general sessions, worksessions and public hearings are televised on Rockville 11 and are available on streaming video at www.rockvillemd.gov. Residents may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Community Forum" portion at most meetings. Meetings are at 7 p.m. and are subject to change.

- Feb. 2 (Monday)
- Feb. 9 (Monday)
- Feb. 12* (Thursday)
- Feb. 23 (Monday)
- Feb. 25* (Wednesday)
- * Worksessions

The mayor and one councilmember are available to meet with residents for drop-in discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall. No appointment is necessary, but a call to the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 is appreciated. Along with Mayor Newton, the councilmember scheduled this month is Virginia D. Onley on Feb. 9.

IN BRIEF

Elected Officials Talk Hot Topics for Rockville and Gaithersburg

Discussion, Broadcast on Rockville 11, Looks at Transportation, Schools and More

Top elected officials discuss topics of importance to Rockville, Gaithersburg and Montgomery County District 3 in "Meet the Mayors," a round table discussion featured throughout February on Rockville 11.

The discussion will feature Rockville Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, Gaithersburg Mayor Jud Ashman and Montgomery County Councilmember Sidney Katz, representing District 3, which includes Rockville and Gaithersburg.

Topics of discussion include:

- Transportation, including planning for the county's bus rapid transit system, I-270 and Rockville Pike.
- Diversity.
- Schools.
- Economic development.

In case inclement weather delays the taping of this program, the special is expected to air later in the spring.

Newton was elected Rockville's mayor in 2013 after serving on the City Council

since 2009. Ashman served on the Gaithersburg City Council for seven years before being appointed mayor last fall, when Katz, Gaithersburg's longtime mayor, resigned after being elected to the Montgomery County Council.

Sonya Burke, of Montgomery Community Media, will moderate the discussion.

The program will be broadcast on channel 11 on county cable systems and available on the City's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville. "Meet the Mayors" runs throughout February on:

- Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m.
- Mondays and Fridays at 10 a.m.
- Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 1 and 5 p.m.
- Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

It will also run on Montgomery Community Media, channel 21 on county cable systems.

Learn More about Your Mayor and Council Online

Visit the Mayor and Council section of the City's website for an in-depth look at the work of our City leaders. You'll find:

- A biography of the mayor and each councilmember.
- A full description of the 'Critical Success Factors,' which outline the Mayor and Council's goals and vision.
- The Mayor and Council's weekly events log.
- Additional documents related to recent meetings.
- A history of members of the Mayor and Council.
- Agendas and minutes.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil to learn more.



**LEARN MORE ON
CHANNEL 11**

Watch online: www.youtube.com/cityofrockville.



Members of the Military Invited to Speak at Events

Rockville will mark Memorial Day on May 25 and Veterans Day on Nov. 11 with special ceremonies honoring veterans and active duty members of the nation's armed forces.

If you or someone you know is a member of the military or a veteran, the City invites you to apply to be a speaker at one of these special programs. Rockville and Montgomery County residents who have formerly served or currently serve in the United States military are eligible to participate.

Volunteer speakers must be comfortable speaking in public and will need to prepare a five- to seven-minute speech about their experiences in the armed forces and what it means to serve and honor those who have also served. Assistance with the speech is available.

Others interested in performing ceremonial duties are also invited to contact the City.

Express your interest in participating or learn more about what's involved by contacting Amanda Knox at 240-314-8604 or aknox@rockvillemd.gov.

Get Help Resolving Conflict through Community Mediation

Rockville's Community Mediation program provides mediation service that is free, confidential and voluntary. Community mediation assists in resolving disputes between:

- Businesses and customers.
- Co-workers.
- Employers and employees.
- Landlords and tenants.
- Neighbors.
- Friends.
- Family members.

Large group facilitation is also available around community disputes.

Read more about the mediation process at www.rockvillemd.gov/mediation. Translation for Spanish and Chinese speakers is available during mediation.

To discuss an issue that may be appropriate for mediation, call the Community Mediation Program at 240-314-8316.

Students: Register Now for Diversity Leadership Workshop

Registration continues this month for a special diversity leadership workshop that will provide students with tools to handle difficult situations with an understanding of diverse populations.

The City's Human Rights Commission is hosting the workshop, for students attending high school in Rockville or attending Montgomery College-Rockville, on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

The dynamic, highly interactive workshop will help students recognize prejudice and create an environment of inclusion in their schools.

Student Service Learning credits will be offered. Verification of hours attended is available for college students. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information or to register, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/humanrights or call 240-314-8316. For information about accessibility, call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8108.

In The Community

City to Phase-Out Swipe Cards for Parking Meters *Program to be Discontinued After June 30*

Rockville is in the process of discontinuing the use of prepaid swipe card readers on City parking meters, citing the cost of replacing the deteriorating readers.

A recent analysis by City staff found that replacing the readers is not cost effective when considered against the revenue that they take in.

Here is what motorists need to know about the phase-out of the swipe cards:

- The last day for motorists to reload their swipe cards is March 30.
- Swipe card readers will be removed from all meters beginning July 1. This will give cardholders ample opportunity to use up any remaining balances.
- The City will refund the unused balance on the

cards. Cardholders may bring their cards and an ID to the cashier's window on the third floor of City Hall, at 111 Maryland Ave., through Monday, Aug. 31, to request a refund. Refunds will be processed and mailed.

- Motorists will continue to be able to pay meter fees with coins or by using a phone number, computer, tablet or smart-phone application via the MobileNOW! service. The City operates 608 parking meters within Rockville, all of which are capable of accepting payments using MobileNOW!

For more information on parking options within the City of Rockville, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/parking.



Rockville Town Square ice rink has found a new way to make the rink's ice whiter and more energy efficient.

Town Square Ice Rink Goes Green to Make Ice White

The outdoor ice skating rink at Rockville Town Square is whiter, colder and more energy efficient after a fine led to a bit of ingenuity by the rink's manager, the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reported on its blog.

Whiter ice reflects more sunlight, stays cold longer and allows for better skating conditions. Rink operators often use paint with calcium carbonate, a powdery substance derived from crushed shells or limestone, to make ice white, the blog reported.

When some of the calcium carbonate made it past the Town Square rink's filters and into local waterways, creating milky clouds, residents noticed, DEP investigated and Tri-State Ice Management was fined.

That led the Annapolis-based rink management

company to look for a more environmentally friendly way to make their ice white, the blog reported. The company created what it calls "low-e ice foil"—paper bonded to thin layers of aluminum foil, pressed into sheets and added to the ice. It's easy to collect after the ice melts, easy to recycle and more reflective than calcium carbonate, creating colder ice and energy savings, the blog said.

To keep the ice cold, Tri-State Ice Management has also begun using an energy-efficient chiller that lowers its output—and energy use—according to the outside temperature, the blog reported.

Learn more about this green technology making white ice at <https://montgomerycountymd.mygreenmontgomery.org/2015/01/skating-green-ice/>.

Rockville 11 Remembers Black History Month with Special Programming

Take time out this month to observe Black History Month by watching special programming on YouTube – and channel 11 produced by Rockville 11.

Rockville 11 talked with Councilmember Virginia D. Onley shortly after she became the first African-American woman elected to the Mayor and Council. In a five-minute video, you'll hear about some of her heroes who have inspired her throughout her life, including her great-grandfather, who was a freed slave.



Councilmember Virginia D. Onley

Local historian Eileen McGuckian took Rockville 11 on a walking tour of historic African-American sites in Rockville in another special. The walking tour was created by the City's Historic District Commission several years ago. Stops along the tour include the Jerusalem-Mount Pleasant United



Frantz Wilson

Methodist Church, the old Montgomery County Courthouse and more.

By watching the six-minute video of the tour, you'll hear about the experiences of Rockville's African-American residents throughout the City's rich history.

In the 13-minute documentary, "Montgomery to Montgomery: An Incidental Encounter with History," watch and listen to Rockville resident Frantz Wilson, who lived in Montgomery, Ala. during the height of the civil rights movement. He reflects on that time in our country's history and several encounters he had with Martin Luther King Jr.

Watch these Rockville 11 specials on the City's YouTube channel throughout February at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville and on channel 11 on county cable systems.



ROCKVILLE CELEBRATED MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S LEGACY... The City's 43rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration on Jan. 19, featured guest Patrice Gaines, (inset) a journalist, author and motivational speaker, delivered a speech incorporating this year's theme of "Fostering a Beloved Community." The celebration, hosted by the Mayor and Council and the City's Human Rights Commission, featured diverse, multicultural performances, including music by TNR-Trio, and the presentation of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award to Thomas S. Wootton High School senior Xavier Hill (middle) and the F. Michael Taff Award to Margie Glancz (not pictured).

News You Can Use

Rock Your Summer at City of Rockville Camps

Families from all around the metro area can enjoy a wide variety of camps organized by the City of Rockville.

The camp guide is now available and registration is open. Campers will enjoy special experiences throughout the summer, with camps that include theater, rocketry, teen travel, field trips, robotics, art, science, nature, sports and more.

The City's camp program is open to Rockville residents and non-residents. It dates back more than 50 years and provides a memorable camp experience for hundreds of kids each summer. Most camps maintain an 8-to-1 camper to staff ratio, which helps ensure a safe, high-quality program.

New camps this year include Game Day; Pump House Pottery; Young Chefs and More; Art of Nature;

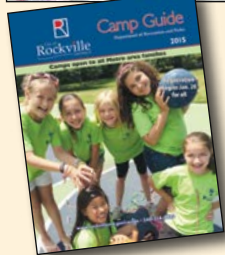
and Reading, Writing and Cooking Camp. Summer Blast, a multi-week camp, is now offered at two locations and offers a new early drop-off option.

View the camp guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/camps and/or pick up a hard copy at City Hall and other City facilities.

Take advantage of our convenient payment plans, early bird discount (through April 8), bus transportation and extended day options. One-week and multi-week and all-day or half-day camps are available.

Register online via Rock Enroll at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov or in person at City Hall or City recreation facilities. Camps begin the week of June 15 and the camp season runs through Aug. 21.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/camps or call 240-314-8620. ✚



Camps begin the week of June 15 and the camp season runs through Aug. 21. Sign up Today!

Rockville Earns Recognition as a 'Healthiest Employer'

When Rockville's employees are healthy, the City's overall health care costs are reduced and employees are able to remain productive and attend to their work.

The City's efforts to improve employee health have earned Rockville a spot on the "Washington Business Journal's" list of "Greater Washington's Healthiest Employers" for the past four years.

This month marks one year since Rockville started offering a Weight Watchers at Work program to employees at City Hall, and participants in the program have lost a combined total of more than 800 pounds.

The program is just one of many offered through the City's wellness program. From fitness classes at City Hall, monthly blood pressure screenings and body composition analyses, the wellness program is working to ensure that employees stay healthy.

Participating in an annual health assessment gives employees personalized feedback about their health status and a discount on their health insurance premiums. Hillary Hurlbutt, Rockville's health and wellness program man-

ager, has been tracking the numbers for a cohort of City employees since 2011 and has seen improvements in a variety of metrics. Among these employees:

- High blood pressure prevalence fell from 28.2 to 19.2 percent.
- Stress readings fell from 26.3 to 20.5 percent.
- The percentage of smokers fell from 10.3 to 6.4 percent.
- Colon cancer screenings rose from 59.6 to 69.2 percent.
- Flu shots rose from 61.5 to 67.7 percent.

"Studies have shown that healthier employees work more days, stay in their jobs longer and require lower health care costs than employees who are unhealthy," Hurlbutt said. "In turn, the healthier City employees are, the more able they are to attend to the needs of the community. Rockville cares about residents and employees, so that's why the City puts a priority on employee wellness – it's a win-win program."

Learn more about the City's wellness program by contacting Hurlbutt at hhurlbutt@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8119. ✚



Academy Offers Info for Doing Business in the City

Register Now for Sessions in March

Rockville business owners, managers and leaders – and those interested in starting a business in the City – are invited to learn about the City through the Rockville Business Academy. Registration for the free, two-day program is now open.

The program will be held from 8-10:30 a.m. March 18 and 25 in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. City staff will lead the sessions.

This is the third year of the program, which will give businesses the tools to operate effectively and thrive in Rockville.

Participants will be able to learn about the following:

- City demographics.

- Planning and development services.
- Refuse and recycling for businesses.
- Best environmental practices for your business.
- Keeping your business and employees safe.
- Commercial code enforcement.
- How to do business with the City.

The program is offered through the City's Neighborhood Resources Division in partnership with the Rockville Chamber of Commerce and Rockville Economic Development, Inc. To register, visit www.rockvillechamber.org.

For more information, contact Hjarman Cordero at 240-314-8344 or hcordero@rockvillemd.gov. ✚

INFO. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Get Involved with 'Our Town – Rockville'

The production of "Our Town – Rockville," a Maryland Public Television (MPT) documentary, is giving community members a chance to join the Mayor and Council to tell Rockville's story. Here's how to be involved in this television production:

1. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown for updates about the production and a list of topics for participants to document using video.
2. Submit a participation form at www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown. This page also includes video guidelines and important release forms that participants shooting video must submit before filming.
3. Sign out an MPT-provided handheld video camera from the Recreation and Parks Department office at Rockville City Hall, at 111 Maryland Ave.
4. Use the camera to record video of Rockville's everyday events, people and places. Video cameras may be signed out for two weeks at a time. To inquire about camera availability, to sign out a camera, or for more information, call 240-314-8620.
5. Return the cameras and video to the Recreation and Parks Department office at City Hall. Video footage will be considered for inclusion in "Our Town – Rockville."
6. Watch "Our Town – Rockville," premiering in September on MPT.

Learn more by visiting the City's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville and searching for "Our Town."

Sharing Rockville's Roads

Rockville's streets are for all road users, and safety is everyone's responsibility. Pedestrian safety is a two-way street – it requires the vigilance of the person walking as well as the person driving the car.

Remember these tips:

When driving:

- It is the law to come to a complete stop behind the solid white line at stop signs and red lights.
- When attempting to make a right turn on red, proceed only after making a complete stop behind the solid white line and yielding to other vehicles and crossing pedestrians.
- Pay attention when making turns on a solid green light – pedestrians may also have the walk signal, which gives them the right of way to cross. Only proceed when it is clear.

When on foot:

- Cross the street at intersections and use the crosswalk if there is one present.
- Follow traffic signals at signalized intersections. Running between cars may shave a few seconds off your travel time, but it is never worth it.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Only cross when it is safe to do so.

Buy Energy-Saving Products and Save on Presidents Day Weekend

Homeowners thinking about upgrading an appliance, replacing a water heater, or even changing a light bulb, can do so tax-free on Presidents Day weekend.

On Feb. 14-16, purchases of the following energy-efficient Energy Star products are free from Maryland's 6 percent sales tax:

- Air conditioners.
- Clothes washers and dryers.
- Furnaces, heat pumps and boilers.
- Solar water heaters (tax exempt at all times).
- Standard-size refrigerators.
- Dehumidifiers.
- Programmable thermostats.
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Learn more about Energy Star products at www.energystar.gov. Learn more about the tax-free weekend by visiting www.marylandtaxes.com and searching "Shop Maryland Energy."

In addition, Pepco offers customers rebates on Energy Star appliances. Learn more at <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/appliance-rebate-program>.

Rockville's Fitzgerald Theatre Hosts Symphony, Opera, Jazz

Enjoy a show at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville this month. The 446-seat theater is located in Rockville Civic Center Park at 603 Edmonston Drive. Shows include:

Duquesne University's Tamburitzans
Saturday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m.

America's premier folk ensemble presents exciting music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring cultures. Tickets: \$36 adult; \$33 senior (62 and older) and student with ID.

Rockville Concert Band's Annual Jazz Concert with Guest Ensemble Rockville Swing Band
Sunday, Feb. 8 at 3 p.m.

No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

National String Symphonia Presents "Romero: Suite Para Cuerdas"
Saturday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m.

This complete suite is a rhythmic, sensual piece that weaves Venezuelan folk music with traditional European forms and energizes any space it fills. Romero is best known for his popular works and as the creator of Venezuela's new wave "Onda Nueva" school of music. Tickets: \$10 - \$37.50.

Victorian Lyric Opera Company Presents Sir Arthur Sullivan & Sydney Grundy's "Haddon Hall"

Thursday, Feb. 26 at 8 p.m. (preview night);
Fridays, Feb. 27 and March 6 at 8 p.m.;
Saturdays, Feb. 28 and March 7 at 8 p.m.;
Sundays, March 1 and 8 at 2 p.m.

The opera, set at the historic Haddon Hall, dramatizes the legend of Dorothy Vernon's elopement with John Manners, resetting the tale in the 17th century. Tickets: \$24 adult; \$20 senior (65 and older); \$16 student.

Learn more about these shows and ticket availability at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre or by calling the box office at 240-314-8690.

Enter Student Work in a Special Art Show

Budding artists: Now's the time to put the finishing touches on that masterpiece you have been working on. You've got a great opportunity to exhibit your artwork at Glenview Mansion Art Gallery.

The gallery is gearing up for its popular annual student art show featuring artwork from Rockville students in grades K-12.

Students who live or attend school in Rockville may deliver one 2-D or 3-D art piece for display in the gallery. Works from students in grades 4-12 will be judged for ribbons. Artwork can be dropped off at the Mansion (located in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive) on Sunday, Feb. 15 between 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The free opening reception for the show is Sunday, Feb. 22 from 1:30-3:30 p.m., with refreshments available in the mansion dining room. Ribbons will be awarded at 2 p.m.

Students may pick up their artwork on Thursday, March 5 from 5-7 p.m. and Friday, March 6 from 2-5 p.m.

Learn more by contacting Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov.

Fitzgerald Evening of Literature is Feb. 10

Enjoy an evening discussing Paula McLain's "The Paris Wife," with Eleanor Heginbotham of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival on Tuesday, Feb. 10 from 7-9 p.m.

The discussion will focus on the lives of Hadley Richardson and a young Ernest Hemingway as they negotiate a difficult marriage in this "New York Times" bestselling novel about expatriates including the young Fitzgeralds. The discussion will be held in the conservatory of the historic Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. The cost is \$10 and includes refreshments.

Reserve your spot for this event by contacting Betty Wisda at 240-314-8681 or bwisda@rockville.md.gov.

Arts & Entertainment

Photography, 'Zen' Paintings on Exhibit at Glenview Gallery

February's exhibition of artwork at Glenview Mansion Art Gallery offers visitors a diverse array of artwork, from photography to mixed media.

Join us for a free opening reception on Sunday, Feb. 1 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the gallery. The exhibition will be open through Feb. 17.

Artists featured this month are:

- Howard Clark, photography.
- Birgit Leiendecker, photography, "Myanmar - A Country in Transition."
- Carl Lennartson, mixed media, "Zen Paintings from the Tao Te Ching."

Also featured at 2 p.m. during the opening reception will be blues guitar and vocals from James Mabry.

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is located on the second floor of the historic mansion in Rockville Civic Center Park, at 603 Edmonston Drive. It hosts month-long exhibitions fea-



Photography by Birgit Leiendecker

turing the work of local visual artists and performing groups.

Admission to the gallery is free. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. The gallery is closed on City holidays. It is wheelchair accessible.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov.



City Offers Spring Sports Leagues for Youth and Adults

Calling all athletes - this spring the City of Rockville has a sport just for you, and registration is currently open.

Kids can take part in T-ball, co-rec (boys and girls) coach pitch baseball, co-rec soccer, or track and field. Each league has one practice per week and a game or meet once a week. T-ball and baseball games are on Saturdays. Soccer games are on Sundays. Track and field meets are on Wednesdays. Practices vary depending on coach availability. Coaches will inform players of the practice and game schedules.

Register for any of these

leagues through March 5. Practices for each youth league begin in mid-March with games or meets starting in mid-April.

Adults can get in on the action this spring by signing up for one of the City's adult sports leagues. Sports offered this spring include men's softball or basketball, co-rec reverse softball (men bat in a reverse stance), co-rec volleyball or co-rec soccer sevens. League play begins in mid-April.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/sports for league details and registration information or call 240-314-8620.

Save the Date for 2015 Special Events



Lunar New Year Celebration (FREE)
Saturday, Feb. 28;
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville Civic Center Park,
603 Edmonston Drive

Enjoy a variety of Asian performances and taste samples of Asian cuisine in celebration of the Lunar New Year. Event also includes exhibits, activities and information about services. See article on page 1.



Rockville Science Day (FREE)
Sunday, April 26;
noon-5 p.m.
Montgomery College-Rockville,
51 Mannakee St.

Stop by the 26th annual Science Day to experience science hands-on. Last year, more than 90 exhibitors came to the event. Sign up to exhibit or volunteer at the event by emailing scienceday@rockvillescience.org. This event is coordinated by the Rockville Consortium for Science, a program of the Rockville Science Center, and supported by the City of Rockville and Montgomery College.



Public Works Equipment Show (FREE)
Thursday, May 21;
11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Rockville Swim and

Fitness Center,
355 Martins Lane

Kids - and kids at heart - will be able to climb into the operator's seat of some of the big trucks used by the Public Works Department. The event includes balloons, popcorn, coloring books and other giveaways.



Hometown Holidays (FREE)
Saturday-Monday,
May 23-25
Rockville Town Center

This popular music festival includes four stages of entertainment, the Taste of Rockville with food and beverages for purchase, amusements for kids and the Memorial Day ceremony and parade.



Independence Day Celebration (FREE)
Saturday, July 4;
7-10 p.m.
Stay tuned - location to be announced in the spring

Celebrate our national holiday with your friends and neighbors, while taking in musical performances and a spectacular fireworks display.

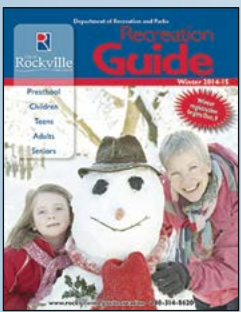
Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest
Saturday, July 18;
7-11 p.m.
Rockville Town Center

Register for a great summer evening

race followed by a block party with live music, food and drinks.

FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration required, register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center** **SR**, 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800.
- **Rockville City Hall** **CH**, 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find something that interests you at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide.

1 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery February exhibition opening and concert See article on page 6. 1:30-3:30 p.m. **GM**

1 Scout Badge Day: Junior Girl Scouts Animal Habitats Naturalists help scouts complete requirements to achieve badges. All materials provided. Badges are not supplied. Rain

February Calendar

R = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

or shine. Pre-registration required. \$14 R/\$16 NR. 2-4 p.m. Call 240-314-8771. **CC**

7 Duquesne University's Tam-buritzans See article on page 6. 7 p.m. **FSF**

8 Annual Jazz Concert presented by Rockville Concert Band See article on page 6. 3 p.m. **FSF**

8 Nature Knit Along Learn to knit or crochet a cozy nest that wildlife rehabilitation staff can use when taking care of patients. Pattern and the yarn provided, or bring your own. Bring needles or crochet hook. Free. Register for course #49986. 1:30-3:30 p.m. **CC**

10 F. Scott Fitzgerald Evening of Literature: "The Paris Wife." See article on page 6. 7-9 p.m. **GM**

10 Tiny Tot's Valentine's Celebration See article on page 2. 10 a.m.-noon. Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls-grove Drive.

13 XOXO Afterschool Valentine's Dance See article on page 2. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Lincoln Park Community Center.

13 Late Night Teen Valentine's Party See article on page 2. 7-9:30 p.m. Thomas Farm Community Center.

13 Annual Heart To Heart Family Valentine's Dance See article on page 2. 7-9 p.m. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

14 Owl-n-tine's Day See article on page 2. 10-10:45 a.m. **CC**

15 Family Ramble: Winter Adaptation Explore plants' and animals' winter adaptations while walking Rockville Civic Center Park. Age 1 and up. \$3 R/\$5 NR. Register for course #49928. 1:30-2:30 p.m. **CC**

19 Nature Tots: Winter Birds A naturalist helps adults and chil-

dren explore the topic through nature play, crafts, stories and hikes. Adult participation required. Preregistration strongly recommended. \$8 R/\$10 NR. Register for course #49912. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

21 Diversity Leadership Workshop Register by Feb. 11. See article on page 4. FREE. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. **CH**

21 Saturday Story and Craft A naturalist will read a story and lead a craft activity based on the story. Dress for the weather. Adult participation required. \$4 R/\$6 NR. Register for course #49923. 10-10:45 a.m. **CC**

21 Dash and Splash A 20-minute walk/run on a treadmill followed by a 20-minute swim. Winners determined by total distance logged. See ad on page 8. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane.

21 Romero: "Suite Para Cuerdas," presented by the National String Symphonia See story on page 6. 8 p.m. **FSF**

22 Dash and Splash A 20-minute walk/run on a treadmill followed by a 20-minute swim. Winners determined by total distance logged. See ad on page 8. 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane.

22 Student Art Show opening See article on page 6. Free. 1:30-3:30 p.m. **GM**

22 Bookworms: "Bear Snores On" Read a story and take home a copy of the book. May include a craft or hike. Ages 2 to 5. Adult participation required. Spaces limited. \$10 R/\$12 NR. Register for course #49926. 3:30-4:15 p.m. **CC**

26-28 "Haddon Hall," presented by Victorian Lyric Opera Company See article on page 6. 8 p.m. **FSF**

27 Lifeguard Training Class begins Six-session American Red Cross Lifeguard Training

course to certify students in lifeguard training, CPR/AED for the professional rescuer and first aid. Students must be 15 years old by the last day of the course and must pass a pre-screen swim test. Cost: \$195. Register for course #49341. 6-10 p.m. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane.

28 Lunar New Year Celebration See article on page 1. FREE. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **FSF**

28 Nature Tots: Nature Detectives A naturalist helps adults and children explore the topic through nature play, crafts, stories and hikes. Adult participation required. Preregistration strongly recommended. \$8 R/\$10 NR. Register for course #49913. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

28 Family Movie Night Watch a PG-rated movie on the big screen. Movie selection to be announced. \$4 at the door. Popcorn and drinks will be sold. 6:30-9 p.m. Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls-grove Dr.

Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check the City website for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

4 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee 7 p.m. Meets the first Wednesday of the month.

5 Environment Commission 7 p.m. Meets the first Thursday of the month.

10 Human Services Advisory Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

11 Cultural Arts Commission 7 p.m. Meets the second Wednesday of the month.

11,25 Planning Commission 7 p.m. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the

month and is televised on Rockville 11.

14 Board of Appeals 9 a.m. Meets the second Saturday of the month and is televised on Rockville 11.

17 Rockville Seniors Inc. 1 p.m. Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

18 Rockville Housing Enterprises 6:30 p.m. Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 621-A Southlawn Lane.

19 Senior Citizens Commission 1 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

19 Historic District Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month.

24 Traffic and Transportation Commission. 7:30 p.m. Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.

25 Human Rights Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month.

26 Recreation and Park Advisory Board 7 p.m. Meets the fourth Thursday of the month.

For the most up-to-date event listings visit www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek and sign up for the weekly email newsletter.

Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Compensation Commission (2)
- Environment Commission (1)
- Financial Advisory Board (1)
- Historic District Commission (1; alternate)
- Human Rights Commission (3)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (2)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (2; alternates)
- Personnel Appeals Board (3)
- Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation, Inc. (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Traffic and Transportation (1)

To learn more about the City's boards and commissions, or to apply, call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

R11 wants to know...

Please complete this 11 question survey (approx. 3 mins.) to help us better serve you with optimal programming and services.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PEGsurvey2014>

Sign up for City of Rockville Emergency Notifications

ALERT Rockville

rockvillemd.gov/alerts

The Alert Rockville notification system relays up-to-the-minute messages to subscribers about public safety, severe weather and traffic.

Signing up is EASY!

1. Create a username and password.
2. Choose the types of alerts you want to receive.
3. Choose and prioritize your preferred method(s) of delivery - text, phone, email.
4. Enter your information - mobile phone number, home phone number, email.
5. Enter up to five locations.

For more information and to sign up, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts.

Public Safety • Severe Weather • Traffic

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV

El presupuesto, tarifas de agua y alcantarillados, mediación y seguridad en las carreteras de Rockville

A continuación encontrará un resumen de algunas de las noticias principales en este ejemplar de "Rockville Reports" (Rockville Informa).

Avance del presupuesto final examinará ingresos fiscales, propuestas del Administrador de la Ciudad

La tercera y última reunión de avance del presupuesto, la cual se celebrará el lunes, 9 de febrero, se centrará en los ingresos fiscales y un examen detallado de las adiciones propuestas por el Administrador de la Ciudad al presupuesto del año fiscal 2016.

El 5 de enero, el Alcalde y el Concejo votaron a favor de aumentos moderados a las tarifas de agua y alcantarillados en los próximos tres años fiscales. Para obtener más detalles sobre las nuevas tarifas, consulte la agenda de la reunión del Alcalde y el Concejo en www.rockvillemd.gov/agen-

dacenter. Para obtener más información, visite www.rockvillemd.gov/budget. Obtenga ayuda para resolver conflictos a través de mediación comunitaria

El programa de Mediación Comunitaria de Rockville ofrece servicios de mediación gratis, confidenciales y voluntarios. La mediación comunitaria ayuda a resolver disputas entre negocios y clientes; compañeros de trabajo; patronos y empleados; arrendadores y arrendatarios; vecinos; amigos; y miembros de la familia.

Se cuenta con traducciones para personas que hablan español y chino. Obtenga más información en www.rockvillemd.gov/mediation o por teléfono si llama al 240-314-8316.

Compartiendo las carreteras de Rockville

Las carreteras de Rockville son para todas las personas que transitan en las vías

públicas, y la seguridad es responsabilidad de todos.

Cuando maneje:

- La ley exige que se detenga completamente detrás de la línea blanca sólida en las señales de pare y luces rojas.
- Cuando trate de doblar a la derecha en la luz roja, proceda sólo después de detenerse completamente detrás de la línea blanca sólida y ceder el paso a otros vehículos y peatones que crucen la calle.
- Preste atención cuando doble en una luz verde sólida - puede que los peatones tengan la señal de cruce a su favor, la cual les da el derecho de paso para cruzar la calle

Cuando camine:

- Siempre cruce la calle en las intersecciones y utilice la acera si existe una.
- Siempre siga las señales de tránsito en las intersecciones señalizadas. El correr entre los automóviles podría eliminar

algunos segundos de su tiempo de viaje, pero nunca vale la pena.

Estado de la Ciudad

La Alcalde Bridget Donnell Newton entregará el Discurso del Estado de la Ciudad el Jueves, 29 de Enero a las 7 p.m. en el Teatro de F. Scott Fitzgerald en el Parque del Rockville Civic Center, 603 Edmonston Drive. El discurso estará disponible para ver todo el mes de Enero por el canal de You Tube de La Ciudad, www.youtube.com/cityofrockville, y también en los canales del condado. La versión que será transmitida en el Canal 11 incluirá subtítulos en Español.

Para obtener más información en español, visite www.rockvillemd.gov y diríjase a la cajita de "Select Language" (seleccione idioma) en la parte inferior derecha de la página. ❖

Community Garden Plots Available for Growing Season

Are you in need of gardening space?

Join local gardeners at Woottons Mill Park for the 2015 community garden plot program. There are 178 plots available from April 4 through Nov. 8. Plots measure 20 feet by 25 feet.

City of Rockville residents pay \$55 per plot. Non-residents pay \$80 per plot. Registration for Rockville residents begins Feb. 3 and March 3 for non-residents.

Gardeners must provide their own hoses, fencing, tools and other garden supplies. The City provides access to water, mulch and trash receptacles at no additional cost.

The Rockville Civic Center Park business office administers the program. For more information, contact Nanette Belice at 240-314-8660 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/gardenplots.

Community Gave Generously to Rockville's Coat Drive

The City's coat drive, coordinated by Lincoln Park Community Center, collected more than 400 coats for people in need last month.

The drive, in its 8th year, was a partnership between the City, Burlington Coat Factory and Shady Grove Fertility. Excellent condition used and brand new coats were collected from Jan. 2-8 at locations throughout Rockville.

Stop By Your Upcoming Neighborhood Meeting

You can participate in your community by attending your neighborhood or homeowners association meetings.

Rockville's Neighborhood Resources Division works with neighborhood groups to build strong partnerships and to find ways to improve City services and strengthen communities. The division can help to coordinate city staff from a variety of departments, including Recreation and Parks, Public Works, Planning and others, to attend your neighborhood meeting to share information about a range of issues. Neighborhood meetings in February are:

- Feb. 2 - Regent Square Condo Association, 7 p.m., Rockville Senior Center
- Feb. 5 - New Mark Commons HOA, 7:30 p.m., 603 Tegner Way
- Feb. 10 - East Rockville Civic Association, 7:30 p.m., 401 South Horners Lane
- Feb. 14 - Lincoln Park Civic Association, 9 a.m., Lincoln Park Community Center
- Feb. 17 - College Square HOA, 7:30 p.m., 390 Martins Lane
- Feb. 18 - King Farm Citizens Assembly, 7:30 p.m., 300 Saddle Ridge Circle
- Feb. 19 - West End Civic Association, 7 p.m., 215 West Montgomery Ave.
- Feb. 24 - Twinbrook Citizens Association, 7 p.m., Twinbrook Community Recreation Center
- Feb. 24 - Americana Centre HOA, 7:30 p.m., 4 Monroe St.

For more information about these meetings, call 240-314-8340.

Neighborhood Notes

Meet Your Neighbor: Crystal and Antwoin Hawkins

Mentors have always played an important role in Crystal and Antwoin Hawkins' lives. The couple founded Young Women of Society in February 2014 with the goals of molding "better daughters, sisters, leaders, and greater women of society."

The nonprofit provides girls with mentors, ways to engage in their community, and has workshops that focus on health, character building, leadership and core values. With four girls of their own, Crystal and Antwoin saw a need to provide young girls with a sense of identity and belonging, and they work with parents to provide a template for achievement.

"Our youth is our future and we have to encourage and show them that the opportunities are out there," Crystal said.

The girls in the Young Women of Society have volunteered to clean up a lo-

cal pond, made bracelets for families at the Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health, and helped distribute food and toys for the Rockville Holiday Drive.

In July 2014 after taking the organization's girls to a local radio station for a



tour, the station recognized Crystal with a Hometown Hero award for her work mentoring young women. Crystal is now taking her experiences to the next level, and having received a scholarship from the Howard



and Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation, she recently started a course

to become a certified youth development practitioner. Through this course, she will be more equipped to mentor youth and help them strengthen their emotional, physical, intellectual and social development.

The Hawkinses, who have lived in Rockville since 2009, recently passed up an opportunity to move to Gaithersburg because they couldn't see themselves leaving the Rockville community. Both say it is a great place to raise kids, in part because of the City's diversity.

"It's normal for our kids to have friends from all different backgrounds, and that's the best part," Crystal said.



For more information about Young Women of Society, visit www.ywofso-ciety.org.

Meet Your Neighbor is a regular feature in Rockville Reports and on Rockville 11 highlighting the unique individuals that make our community a special place. To suggest someone for a future episode and article, email meetyourneighbor@rockvillemd.gov.

REDI Looks Back on 2014, Gears Up for 2015 Business Appreciation Week

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. saw a successful 2014, with new offices, new events and a continued commitment to Rockville's business community. REDI Executive Director Laurie Boyer told the Mayor and Council during a Jan. 12 update in which she presented a year-in-review video.

Last year saw REDI and the Maryland Women's Business Center move into larger offices, at 51 Monroe Street. The year also brought MWBC's annual StartRight! women's business plan competition, the "Rockville Works for

Me" ad campaign and the annual Rockville Business Appreciation Week. REDI also held the first REDI Resource Meetup, with over 100 participants networking and the first "Rockin' in Rockville" award.

Find the update and the year-in-review video by visiting www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand and selecting the Jan. 12 Mayor and Council meeting video. Or view the year-in-review video on YouTube at www.youtube.com and search "REDI 2014 Year End Review."

Rockville Business Appreciation Week 2015

is March 9-13. During the week ambassadors, including the Mayor and Council, City staff and REDI representatives, visit Rockville businesses to learn about the City's business climate and introduce business owners to resources available to help their businesses grow. REDI ambassadors visited 51 companies during Business Appreciation Week 2014.

Businesses interested in having REDI visit during the week should email Alicia McLeod at mcleod@rockvilleredi.org.

Learn more at www.rockvilleredi.org.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the City of Rockville's website. If you don't already have a QR code reader on your phone, there are plenty of free apps you can download. When you have an app installed, point your phone's camera at the code and the website will appear in your phone's web browser.



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Dash and Splash at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center

Saturday and Sunday,
Feb. 21-22

Open to ages 15+.

Cost: \$20 (Ages 15-61)

\$15 Seniors (62+)



Aquathlon consisting of a 20 min.

treadmill walk/run followed by a

20 min. swim. 10 min. station transitions.

Winners in each age group,

determined by total distance logged.

Register online via Rock Enroll at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov or in person at City Hall or any Rockville recreation facility.

Rockville Swim and Fitness Center • 355 Martins Lane • www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter • 240-314-8750